

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF
05 April 2000

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Training Program - France

1. **PURPOSE:** To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities available in France to assist in selection and arrival time of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent FAO trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

2. **FACTS:**

a. Summary of Program:

(1) Tour Length- 12 months.

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates- One FAO each arrives in Jan and Jul, and departs Jan and Jul the following year.

(3) Program Description- Two officers per year complete ICT in France. The FAOs attend the French CAS3 equivalent Ecole d'Etat Major (EEM) at Compiègne for 5 months followed by in-country/regional orientation and study. EEM has three sessions/year; course dates may vary but are usually Feb - Jul and Aug - Jan. Officer Advanced Courses may be scheduled as an alternative to EEM. Available OACs are Infantry, Armor, Artillery, Engineer, Signal, and Aviation. All are normally held twice per year. Information pertaining to each OAC will vary, e.g., housing, support facilities, and prerequisites.

(4) Prerequisites-CPT/MAJ; French 2/2/2 minimum; branch immaterial.

b. Property:

(1) Government - FAO computer.

(2) Personal - Bring POV or purchase one in-country. Strongly recommend FAOs bring personal computer with email and 110/220v, 50/60cycle capability.

c. Housing: Local economy can be expensive and finding housing can be time consuming. FAOs receive OHA and COLA; allowances cover monthly costs. Expensive start-up costs. FAOs can live in Paris, Compiègne (site of EEM), or location

of OAC. Choosing Paris means commuting to EEM (1-2 hours) and living in the BOQ during the week.

d. Support Facilities:

(1) Embassy has APO service.

(2) FAOs are attached to the Defense Attaché Office; personnel and finance records are maintained by the US Army Field Support Center, Ft Meade, MD.

(3) Medical- Excellent care is readily available. CHAMPUS/TRICARE is usually used by active duty and dependents. U.S. military facilities are available at SHAPE, 2 hours from Compiegne. (approx. 120 miles from Compiegne)

(4) Dependent Schooling- Schools in Compiegne teach in French language only. Paris has many English-speaking schools. Traditionally, school-age children of FAOs live and attend private schools in Paris.

(5) PX/Commissary- Embassy has a small commissary/gift shop. Prices are approximately one-third higher than in military facilities; selection is limited. Closest PX in area is located near SHAPE in Mons, Belgium (about one to one and a half hours drive).

e. Language Instruction Availability: Paris has a large number of language schools. Compiegne is limited to private tutors. AMEMB may have language instruction available.

f. Rater/Senior Rater: A/ARMA
ARMA

g. FAOs scheduled for training:

MAJ James Bogle	FA, 89	9907-0007
CPT Steven W. Crusinberry	OD, 90	0001-0101
CPT David Reinke	AV, 91	0007-0107
MAJ Leon Pennington	AV, 89	0101-0201
CPT Jeffrey Stansfield	MI, 92	0107-0207

h. Address:

09777 (1) Mail- USDAO, American Embassy Paris, PSC 116, B210, APO AE
(2) Message- USDAO PARIS FR

i. Telephone: Voice 011-33-1-4312-2760
Fax 011-33-1-4742-9193

j. Email: usdaoparis@compuserve.com

3. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

a. Reference Material. Some materials from OAC/CAS3/CGSC may be useful.
Check with your sponsor for specific recommendations.

b. Travel Priorities. 1) France; 2) Spain, Portugal, Italy; 3) Belgium,
Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom.

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